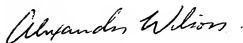


Remarks

With the present Preliminary Amendment, Applicants propose canceling original Claims 18 and 19 prior to examination. Claims 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 14 and 15 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. The present amendment is being proposed in order to bring the pending claim types into conformance with standard U.S. practice.

As the present amendment merely relates to the cancellation of claims, Applicants submit that the amendment encompasses no added matter. Applicants courteously request entry of the present amendment and passage of the case for examination.

Respectfully submitted,



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20 April 2006.